

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/510,246 Confirmation No. : 7546
First Named Inventor : Thompson, Andrew Hugin
Filed : October 1, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1641
Examiner : Cook, Lisa V.

Docket No. : 103895.B600304
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Method for Characterising Analytes

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (Election of Species Requirement) dated June 24, 2008, Applicants submit herewith the following response.

The Examiner has required election of one of each of the following groups of species for prosecution on the merit:

- I. A single sequence specific cleavage agent for consideration – either a, b or c.
 - a. the sequence specific cleavage agent cleaves on the C-terminal side of a lysine residue.
 - b. the sequence specific cleavage agent comprises Lys-C or
 - c. the sequence specific cleavage agent comprises Trypsin.

- II. A single lysine reactive agent for consideration – either d or e.
 - d. the lysine reactive agent comprises biotin, or
 - e. the lysine reactive agent comprises a hindered Michael reagent.

Applicants elect, with traverse, the following species, for purposes of searching only:

From list I, Applicants elect species Ia, namely the sequence specific cleavage agent that cleaves on the C-terminal side of a lysine residue. It is believed that claims 15-20, 22-24, 51-53, and 55-63 read upon this elected species. Applicants note that the three options of cleavage agents listed by the Office involve cleavage of the target polypeptide backbone at the C-terminal side of the lysine residues. Applicants submit that this election of species is for purposes of searching only, and note that the Office must consider further species upon allowance of the elected species.

From list II, Applicants elect species IIe, namely the lysine reactive agent comprising a hindered Michael reagent. It is believed that claims 15-21, 23-24, 51-54 and 56-57 read upon this elected species. Applicants submit that this election of species is for purposes of searching only, and note that the Office must consider further species upon allowance of the elected species.

Applicants submit that this election of species is for purposes of searching only, and note that the Office must consider further species upon allowance of the elected species.

Applicants have no intention of abandoning any non-elected subject matter, and should it be necessary, Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications directed to non-elected subject matter.

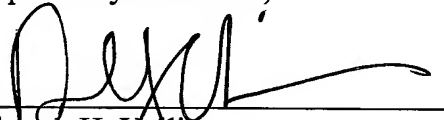
Applicants earnestly solicit favorable consideration of the above response and early passage to issue the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned

at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 103895.B600304).

July 24, 2008

Respectfully submitted,


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